



Michael A. Ramos
District Attorney

Mission Statement

The San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office represents the interests of the people in the criminal justice system, as mandated by California State Law. The San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office serves the residents of San Bernardino County by: seeking the truth; protecting the innocent; holding the guilty accountable; preserving the dignity of victims and their families; and ensuring that justice is done while always maintaining the highest ethical standards.



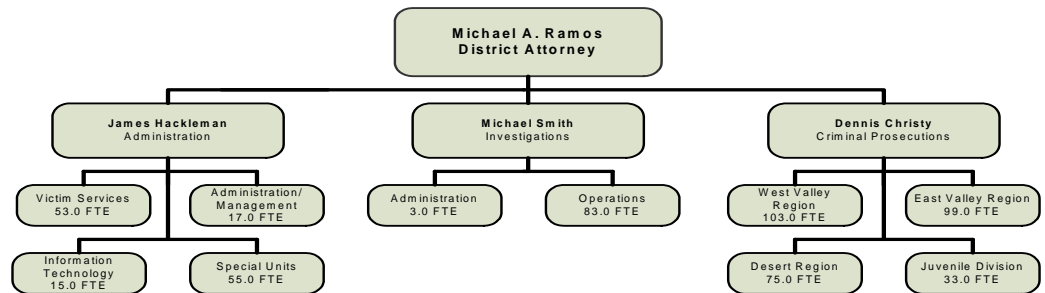
GOALS

PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY BY PUNISHING CRIMINAL CONDUCT

ASSIST VICTIMS AND FAMILIES TO OVERCOME THE EFFECTS OF CRIME AND HELP THEM TO SUPPORT SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTION

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR SERVICES

The District Attorney is the public prosecutor and has the mandated responsibility to prosecute crimes committed within the county of San Bernardino, including all city jurisdictions, pursuant to Government Code 26500. Additionally the District Attorney's Office: provides legal assistance for criminal investigations conducted by law enforcement agencies throughout the county; is the legal advisor to the Grand Jury and is authorized to submit evidence and seek indictments from the body; initiates civil commitment petitions to keep Mentally Disordered Offenders and Sexually Violent predators in locked facilities; employs civil proceedings in asset forfeiture matters to seek the proceeds of criminal activity; and utilize civil proceedings to seek sanctions and injunctive relief against businesses that pollute or create dangerous conditions for employees and citizens.

The District Attorney also has a duty to investigate crimes: District Attorney investigators work to prepare cases for trial and initiate special criminal investigations. The office also administers several state grants and other state revenues that fund prosecutors and investigators who handle Real Estate Fraud, Auto Insurance Fraud, Workers' Compensation Fraud, and other special areas of prosecution.

The District Attorney has an ethical and legal responsibility to the victims of crime. The office seeks restitution for victims and provides emotional and financial support for victims and their families.

Finally, as the public prosecutor who handles all cases in the name of The People, the District Attorney has a responsibility to keep the citizens of this county informed through regular interaction with the media and the public.

2007-08 SUMMARY OF BUDGET UNITS

	Appropriation	Revenue	Local Cost	Fund Balance	Staffing
General Fund					
Criminal Prosecution	59,051,132	35,845,581	23,205,551		506.0
Child Abduction and Recovery	876,549	876,549	-		6.0
Total General Fund	59,927,681	36,722,130	23,205,551		512.0
Special Revenue Funds					
Real Estate Fraud Prosecution	4,088,637	1,500,000		2,588,637	11.0
Auto Insurance Fraud Prosecution	929,574	766,302		163,272	6.0
Workers' Comp Fraud Prosecution	1,718,860	1,457,200		261,660	11.0
Specialized Prosecutions	708,708	594,925		113,783	-
Vehicles Fees-Auto Theft	1,110,119	833,500		276,619	-
State Asset Forfeitures	465,973	400,000		65,973	-
Federal Asset Forfeitures	169,769	24,000		145,769	-
Total Special Revenue Funds	9,191,640	5,575,927		3,615,713	28.0
Total - All Funds	69,119,321	42,298,057	23,205,551	3,615,713	540.0

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

GOAL 1: PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY BY PUNISHING CRIMINAL CONDUCT

Objective A: To continue to promptly, effectively, and ethically prosecute criminal offenses.

MEASUREMENT	2005-06 Actual	2006-07 Actual	2007-08 Target	2007-08 Estimate	2008-09 Target
1A. Average number of days between felony case filing and disposition.	110	120	90	125	90

Status

It is critical to the system of justice that it be administered in a timely fashion. Delays in concluding prosecutions frustrate victims and cause witness recollection to fade; and, punishment becomes less meaningful the farther removed the defendant becomes from the criminal act itself. Slow moving cases increase the size of court calendars and reduce the quality of justice for all. San Bernardino County continues to have some of the highest caseloads per court in the state. While our efforts to push cases forward continue, increase in cases filed continues to have an effect. Additional courtrooms have only recently begun assuming caseloads. The new courtrooms will relieve the current bottleneck of cases. This will allow for the efficient use of our current resources, which in turn allows the department to serve the citizens of our county in the most efficient manner.

GOAL 2: ASSIST VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO OVERCOME THE EFFECTS OF CRIME AND HELP THEM SUPPORT SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTION

Objective A: To minimize the impact of crime upon the lives of victims and assist them as they participate in the criminal justice system.

MEASUREMENT	2005-06 Actual	2006-07 Actual	2007-08 Target	2007-08 Estimate	2008-09 Target
2A. Percentage increase of cases where victim services are provided. (5,676 cases in 2005-06).	26%	41%	32%	51%	40%

Status

The personal contact with a trained Victim Witness Advocate is the best reassurance this can provide for traumatized victims as they find their way through an often-confusing criminal justice system. Advocates provide emotional support and information regarding services and restitution to our victims. It is the objective of this office to provide that personal contact in as many cases as possible and to increase that level of contact in succeeding years in service to our victims of crime. First quarter numbers for 2007-08 indicate that the number of victims served will increase over the prior fiscal year. The addition of advocate positions to support four judgeships has contributed to improving these numbers.

2006-07 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ❖ Increased Special Unit case filings
- ❖ Increased services in serious cases and served more victims at the children's assessment center
- ❖ Hosted 3rd Camp Good Grief – to assist children who have experienced a violent death in their family
- ❖ Placement of Victim Advocate at ARMC
- ❖ Expanded police based advocacy
- ❖ Begin to provide advocate services to tribal members



D.A. Michael A. Ramos works with other law enforcement partners to educate the public on fire and the law.



Victim Witness Advocates preparing to distribute vital information to victims of crime.



D.A. staff of the Community Prosecution program working with the public to reduce crime.

APPROVED ADDITIONAL GENERAL FUND FINANCING (POLICY ITEMS)

Brief Description of Policy Item	Budgeted Staffing	Appropriation	Dept. Revenue	Local Cost
1. Increase Special Units management staff – ongoing funding	2.0	299,942	-	299,942
2. Increase support staff for case handling – ongoing funding	7.0	323,657	-	323,657
3. Increase Victim Services staff to increase case handling – ongoing funding	2.0	133,716	-	133,716
4. Expand Lifer Prison Parole Unit – ongoing funding	1.0	178,644	-	178,644
5. Increase Bureau of Investigation staff – ongoing funding	1.0	85,000	-	85,000
6. Increase gang unit staff – ongoing funding	6.0	621,000	-	621,000

MEASUREMENT	2005-06 Actual	2006-07 Actual	2007-08 Target	2007-08 Estimate	2008-09 Target
P1. Number of Special Units' filings.	253	283	279	291	300
P2. Increase efficiency in case processing resulting in increased cases entered.	68,139	82,271	72,282	84,336	86,866
P3a. Number of victims in serious cases.	5,107	7,185	5,630	11,277	15,787
P3b. Number of cases at the Children's Assessment Center.	569	813	615	837	862
P4. Number of parole hearings where the District Attorney appears on behalf of the victim.	197	252	325	250	255
P5. Percentage increase of identify theft cases filed. Cases for 2006-07 (391).	N/A	N/A	3%	17%	3%
P6. Percentage increase of cases filed by the gang unit. Cases for 2006-07 (1,100).	N/A	N/A	3%	16%	3%

Status

The department continues its effort to promote public safety and assist victims of crime. In 2006-07 the Board of Supervisors funded two management positions in the District Attorney's Special Units, which resulted in a 12% increase in the number of special unit case filings.

In 2006-07 the Board of Supervisors funded 7.0 clerical positions countywide, in an effort to increase efficiency in cases entered. The department increased case processing by 21% over the previous year.

The Board of Supervisors funded two victim services positions to increase the number of victims served. Victims served at the Children's Assessment Center increased 41% over the previous year.

The Board of Supervisors funded an additional attorney position to expand the Lifer Parole Unit. As a result, the number of parole hearings attended increased as expected and in the current fiscal year the number of hearings appears to be leveling off and caseloads are stabilizing.

In 2007-08 the Board of Supervisors funded 1.0 DA Investigator position for the Identity (ID) Theft Unit. The department has experienced an increase in ID theft filings and this investigator position allows the department to more efficiently handle these cases. Based on first quarter ID theft filings, the estimated percentage increase in filings over the prior year is 17%.

Lastly, in 2007-08 the Board of Supervisors funded six positions to assist in gang prosecution efforts: 1.0 Supervising DA Investigator, 1.0 Deputy District Attorney, 3.0 Investigative Technicians and 1.0 supervising victim advocate. The department continues to experience an increase in gang cases and filings. Based on first quarter gang case filing, the estimated percentage increase in filing over the prior year is 16%.

2008-09 REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL GENERAL FUND FINANCING (POLICY ITEMS), INCLUDING NEW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) PROJECTS, OR BUSINESS PROCESS IMPROVEMENT (BPI) RESERVE FUNDS

Brief Description of Policy Item, CIP, or BPI reserve funds request	Budgeted Staffing	Appropriation	Dept. Revenue	Local Cost
1. Management Enhancement: Increase staff by 1 Chief Deputy District Attorney, 3 Supervising Deputy District Attorneys, 2 Supervising Office Assistants and 1 Supervising Office Specialist. (Policy item)	7.0	1,067,382	-	1,067,382
Continue to maximize the effectiveness of the District Attorney's operations by increasing the effective and efficient use of personnel. (Ongoing funding – 1,030,107; One-time cost - 37,275)				
2. Fontana office – increase space by 6,000 sq. ft to accommodate 19.0 expected positions in the next two years. (CIP)	-	242,100	-	242,100
To address facility issues where all currently available space has been utilized. To accommodate increased staffing due to Judicial increases. (Ongoing funding – 97,100; if modular unit – one time cost – 145,000).				
3. Witness Relocation and Assistance Program: Increase staff by 1.0 Supervising Deputy District Attorney Investigator and 8.0 Investigative Technicians. (Policy item)	9.0	963,088	-	963,088
Continue to increase the department's effectiveness in the areas of witness assistance, relocation and maximizing Investigators time by increasing support staff and continued improvement of services to victims and witnesses of crime. Specialized unit devoted full-time to the investigation and prosecution of cold cases. (Ongoing funding – 768,813; One time cost - 194,275)				
4. Cold Case Unit: Increase staff by 1.0 Deputy District Attorney, 1.0 District Attorney Investigator and 1.0 Office Assistant IV. (Policy item)	3.0	445,154	-	445,154
Specialized unit devoted full-time to the investigation and prosecution of cold cases. (Ongoing funding – 392,024; One time cost - 53,130)				
5. Rancho office – increase space by 2,500 sq. ft to accommodate 8.0 expected positions in the next two years. (CIP)	-	157,000	-	157,000
To address facility issues where all currently available space has been utilized. To accommodate increased staffing due to Judicial increases. Continued funding – 72,000; One time cost - 85,000)				
6. Victorville office – obtain new space of 30,000 sq. ft for the consolidation of the criminal and juvenile operations and to accommodate 16 expected positions in the next two years. (CIP)	-	1,776,000	-	1,776,000
To address facility issues where all currently available space has been utilized. To accommodate increased staffing due to Judicial increases. To consolidate staff in three different locations next to the courthouse. (Continued funding – 1,026,000; One time cost - 750,000)				

MEASUREMENT	2005-06 Actual	2006-07 Actual	2007-08 Target	2007-08 Estimate	2008-09 Target
P1. Reduction in Supervisory attorneys to line staff ratio. (Base – 1:15)					1:12
P3. Increase number of witness relocations provided. (Base – 35)					61
P3. Increase number of subpoenas served. (Base – 5,359)					5,520
P4. Increase number of cold cases filed. (Base - 2)					10

2008-09 PROPOSED FEE ADJUSTMENTS

The department is not requesting any proposed fee adjustments for 2008-09.

If there are questions about this business plan, please contact Claudia Swing, Chief of Administration, at (909) 382-7689.